

Awre Parish Council & Burial Authority

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18th March, 2019
at the Village Hall, Awre at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs. Marshall (Chairman), Allen, Bullock, Cotton, Fellows, Greening and Ware.

IN ATTENDANCE: County Cllr. Boyles, District Cllr. Hughes, two members of the public and the Clerk.

1. APOLOGIES

None received.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. DISPENSATION REQUESTS

None received.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

No comments received.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was resolved to adopt, as a true record, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th February, 2019.

6. MATTERS ARISING SINCE THE LAST MEETING

The Clerk reported on the following:

6.1 A letter from MJF Estate & Landscape Maintenance to inform the Council that due to ill health, he is unable to undertake the landscape maintenance work that he has carried out for some 25 years. Clerk to send a letter from the Council.

6.2 **Planning Application Decisions**

P0056/19/TCA – Legg Barn, Church Square, Blakeney - permission granted.

P0094/19/TCA – Church Cottage, Awre – permission granted.

P0131/19/TCA – Awre House, Awre Road, Blakeney – granted permission.

P0063/19/FUL – The Coach House, Newnham Road, Blakeney – refused.

6.3 **Public Conveniences – Blakeney**

Water – the invoices have been estimated each quarter since January, 2018.

A meter reading has now been taken and submitted to WaterPlus which means that the Council will be in credit for a while; to be confirmed.

Electricity – this was last billed in July 2010 and since that time 5,485 units have been used. The invoice is awaited, and it was noted that the Council cannot be charged for supply more than a year old.

6.4 **Damage to Verges in Awre** – during a conversation with Mr. Hunt, he confirmed that the drivers had been told to stay off the verges and to reverse back to passing places if car drivers were unable to reverse. Cllr. Greening said that she was happy to meet with Mr. Hunt to show him the affected areas.

7. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Boyles' report regarding the following key issues was noted:

- 7.1 AV1 Robot – part of £0.5m project to enable children to actively engage in education from their hospital bed. The robot would sit in the classroom and link to the child in hospital so that they do not fall behind in their education.
- 7.2 Oak Quarry would be closed until 5th April to install a mobile compactor. Also, Highways is to undertake work to ensure that there is no queuing on the road.
- 7.3 Gloucestershire is in the top 10 for Adult Care.
- 7.4 School Safety Zone – work had been started.

8. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Hughes reported on the following issues:

- 8.1 Publica – review of planning services – Cllr. Hughes said that he would check whether Parish Councils would have the opportunity to comment.
- 8.2 FoDDC net budget of £10,497,500 had been agreed by Full Council which meant that the District Council's share of Council Tax would increase by 2.99% being the maximum allowed before a referendum must be held.

9. PLANNING – FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

The following planning applications were considered:

- 9.1 **P0214/19/FUL – Dawn House, Newnham Road, Blakeney**
Erection of a two-storey side extension to provide accommodation for the use of a disabled person and carer including therapy room, lift and store. Erection of a single storey extension to provide hydrotherapy pool with associated works. **No objections.**
- 9.2 **P0091/19/FUL & P0092/19/LBC – The Cock Inn, Nibley Hill, Blakeney**
Listed Building Consent for the conversion of public house to residential dwelling including internal alterations, alterations to fenestration, the removal of existing car park and erection of a low garden wall with associated landscaping and works.

It was resolved to object to the application on the basis that there is insufficient information to judge/justify the loss of a community asset as set out in CSP8. Also, to be noted that it is extremely disappointing that the Tourism Officer has decided not to comment on the potential loss of accommodation for visitors to the Forest of Dean.

The community right to nominate and bid for assets of community value was raised. Cllr. Ware suggested that this be debated at the next meeting.

10. CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING ACTION

- 10.1 GCC First Aid Courses – Clerk to check the length of the community based first aid courses and whether the use of defibrillators is covered.
- 10.2 Blakeney Weir – Eel Pass Volunteers – it was noted that the Clerk had asked for clarification regarding several issues, e.g., health and safety and insurance. Cllr. Bullock said that he would chase this up.

10.3 Footpaths – a comprehensive report of work completed during February, 2019 in Parish was noted. Of particular concern was footpath DAW50 which is being obstructed by items of scrap. Clerk to write to FoDDC.

11. FINANCE

11.1 It was resolved to approve the following accounts for payment:

Inv. Ref.	Chq. No./ BACS	Payee	Purpose	Auth	Amount
	001213	Garden Waste Licence	For x 1 bin at Blakeney Cemetery	LGA 1972, s.214.3	£32.00
E51	BACS	GAPTC	Being a Good Councillor Training x 2	LGA 1972, s.111	£170.00
E52	BACS	M.J. Fisher Estate & Landscape Mtnce	Grass Cutting July-Sept '18 Grass Cutting Oct-Dec '18	Open Spaces Act 1906 s.9& s.10	£222.00 £222.00
	BACS	Ursula Deighton	Reimbursement for payment for timber bollards.	Highways Act 1980, s.96	£130.00
				TOTAL:	£776.00

Proposed by Cllr. Fellows and seconded by Cllr. Cotton; supported unanimously.

12. BEING A BETTER COUNCILLOR

Cllrs. Ware and Greening had both attended this course recently and found it useful. One point made during the day was that Councillors should have a separate e-mail address solely for Parish Council business. **It was agreed** that this was a matter of individual choice and the Clerk should be informed of any change of e-mail address.

13. STANDING ORDERS & CODE OF CONDUCT

Following discussion, **it was agreed** that a separate meeting should be arranged to go through these documents and amend if/where necessary and re-issue.

14. DEMENTIA AWARENESS

It was agreed that the Clerk should organise two dates, one in Awre and one in Blakeney far enough in advance and open both to anyone interested in attending in addition to Councillors and local businesses, school, doctors' surgery, etc.

15. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The date for the Annual Parish Meeting was agreed as being Monday, 29th April to be held in the Village Hall, Awre. Clerk to check the date and circulate invitations.

16. MINOR MATTERS INCLUDING INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE CLERK

16.1 Bollards – it was noted that these had been installed (on the green area behind the Post Office) since the last meeting as the work needed to be carried out urgently since the damage to this area was increasing. A comment was made about the area around the bollards not being left in a tidy state. Following discussion, Cllr. Bullock volunteered to obtain some topsoil in order to make good the area.

- 16.2 Cemetery – Cllr. Allen reported that he was waiting for quotations for creating an area for the spoil from the graves to be located and for clearing the moss. He expressed concern that the hedge at the top of the cemetery had been pushed over in one section by a tractor travelling to the field at the end of the track. Cllr. Allen and the Clerk to have a meeting at the cemetery to discuss these issues.
- 16.3 Since the last meeting a rubbish bin had been placed in the layby at the turning off the A48 to Awre. A request had been passed to the Chairman, who passed this to the Clerk, who in turn contacted FoDDC and within days a bin appeared.

17. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS – Cllr. Fellows gave his apologies for the next meeting.

18. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Dates 2019	Meeting	Venue Time: 7.00 p.m.	Agenda items & Dispensation requests by:
15 th April	Parish Council	Blakeney Youth Club	5 th April
29 th April	Annual Parish Meeting	Awre Village Hall	N/A
2 nd May	Parish Council Elections		
20 th May	Annual Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	10 th May
17 th June	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	7 th June
15 th July	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	5 th July
19 th August	Parish Council	Blakeney Youth Club	9 th August
16 th September	Parish Council	T.B.C.	6 th September
21 st October	Parish Council	T.B.C.	11 th October
18 th November	Parish Council	T.B.C.	8 th November
16 th December	Parish Council	T.B.C.	6 th December

Meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.